



Austin Water
Special Circumstance Variance
Threat to Primary Source of Income

INSTRUCTIONS

Variances to watering restrictions may be granted in accordance with City Code, Chapter 6-4-30, Water Conservation whereby the Austin Water Utility (AWU) Executive Director determines that a special circumstance exists and that strict compliance with the provisions at issue substantially threatens the applicant's primary source of income, the applicant is employing all reasonable water conservation measures, and the approval of the variance will not result in water waste.

Please Note:

- **Compliance with the water use regulations contained in Austin City Code Chapter 6-4, Water Conservation is required until specific approval is granted by the Water Conservation Division of Austin Water.**
- **An application for a variance does not provide reliance that the variance as requested will be approved.**
- **All variances are decided on a case-by-case basis.**

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Throughout the life of the variance, the Water Service Account Holder is presumed to be responsible for compliance with all the provisions of the Chapter 6-4, Water Conservation. This will include but is not limited to the following:

Power/Pressure Washing:

A person may not use commercially operated cosmetic power/pressure washing equipment unless it is fitted with a water recycling unit and a spray nozzle using no more than 3.5 gallons of water per minute (gpm) and employing a working trigger shut-off with a protective weep mechanism.

Vehicle Washing:

A person may not use or allow the use of water to wash or rinse an automobile, truck, trailer, boat, airplane, motorcycle, or other mobile equipment or vehicle unless a variance has been approved by the director of Austin Water.

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Variance applicants will be provided a Posting Form to be placed in the windshield of the vehicle used for this variance or in a location on the subject property that is accessible and visible to the public. This form must remain in place until the variance is expired.

APPLICATION

Strict compliance with the provisions at issue substantially threatens the applicant's primary source of income, the applicant is employing all reasonable water conservation measures, and the approval of the variance will not result in water waste. A declaration from the applicant or an agent for the applicant stating the purpose of the variance may be requested before approval is given for this variance.

Please check all that apply:

- ☐ Adversely affects: Health of the public, the applicant or the environment
- ☐ Adversely affects: Safety or welfare of the public, the applicant or the environment
- ☐ Adversely affects: Sanitation of the public, the applicant or the environment
- ☐ Substantially threatens the applicant's primary source of income

Please complete the following:

Requested Start Date: _____

Expiration Date: _____

(AWU Use Only)

Company Name (if applicable): _____

Applicant Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Email: _____

Property Name (if applicable): _____

Property Management Company (if applicable): _____

Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Landscape Company: _____ Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Briefly explain why a variance is being requested:

APPLICANT SIGNATURE:

By signing my name below, I acknowledge that the above information is true and correct and that all attachments are made part of this variance request and any subsequent approvals. I acknowledge that all commercially operated cosmetic power/pressure washing equipment used by the applicant for the purposes stated in this variance application is fitted with a water recycling unit and a spray nozzle using no more than 3.5 gallons of water per minute (gpm) and employs a working trigger shut-off with a protective weep mechanism.

I further understand the watering restrictions imposed by this variance does not exempt the applicant from complying with the provisions of Austin City Code, Chapter 6-4 Water Conservation.

Signature: _____ Title: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Upon completion, Email, Fax or Mail to:

AWU Water Conservation,
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767

or FAX to (512) 974-6548

or EMAIL to waterusecompvar@austintexas.gov

Suspension or Revocation of a Variance - Section 6-4-30 (K)

A variance following its approval by the director may be immediately suspended or revoked by Austin Water Utility if the director or director's designee determines any of the following: a violation of the terms of the variance occurs at the location during the effective period of the variance, the application submitted to the director upon which the variance approval was based included false, misleading, incomplete, or inaccurate information or attachments, the director declares an emergency recall of variances to control use or preserve supply based on protracted drought, unusual operational event, or other public necessity

You will be contacted within five (5) business days of receipt of this application.

AWU Use Only

Approved ☐

Denied ☐

Initial Site Inspection Date: _____

_____/_____
(AWU staff) (Date)